

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Claims 1-107 are currently pending in this application. No amendments are being made.

Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing the previous objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and 103(a).

Rejection on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting

Over U.S. Appl. No. 10/619,539 in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,696,091

Claims 1-17, 24-27, 29-33, 35, 36, 29-56, 58, 65, 77-90 and 92 were provisionally rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims currently pending in copending U.S. Appl. No. 10/619,539 in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,696,091. Without acquiescing to the rejection, Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer over U.S. Appl. No. 10/619,539 and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Over U.S. Pat. No. 6,592,903 in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,696,091

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-8, 10, 11 and 93 were rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9-14 and 18-20 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,592,903 in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,696,091. Without acquiescing to the rejection, Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer over U.S. Pat. No. 6,592,903 and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim objections

Claims 94-107 were objected to for being dependent on rejected claim 93. As a terminal disclaimer is being filed herewith as discussed *supra*, claim 93 should no longer stand rejected. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn as well.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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By

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